

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior Listings and versions of claims in the above-identified application.

Listing of Claims

1-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously Presented) A cysteine variant of interleukin-11 of SEQ ID NO: 17, wherein a cysteine residue is inserted following the last amino acid of interleukin-11; wherein said variant has biological activity *in vitro* as measured by proliferation of a cell line that proliferates in response to interleukin-11.

26-43. (Cancelled)

44. (Currently Amended) The cysteine variant according to claim 25~~any one of claims 24 to 26~~, wherein the inserted cysteine residue is modified with a cysteine-reactive moiety.

45. (Cancelled)

46. (Cancelled)

47. (New) The cysteine variant according to Claim 44, wherein the cysteine-reactive moiety is polyethylene glycol.